

Rule 5.2.6 Status Conference (SC)

In those cases where both Petitioner and Respondent are self-represented, the court will calendar a SC for the earlier of 150 days after the filing of the petition or 90 days after the filing of the response, unless the parties have requested that the SC be held earlier or the parties have filed an ADR or Reconciliation stipulation pursuant to sections C and D below or a judgment has been entered or a dismissal has been filed.

- A. **Purpose.** Unrepresented parties are required to meet with a staff attorney from the Family Law Facilitator's Office to discuss the status of their case and receive necessary assistance.
- B. **Scheduling and Notice.** The Court will provide notice of the SC to those parties who have filed an appearance in the case. Each party may request one continuance by telephone up to 1 day before the scheduled conference date for a reasonable period of time. The continuance must be by stipulation if Respondent has appeared. Additional continuances may be submitted to the court for good cause.
- C. **Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR).** Parties who file a stipulation indicating they are presently participating in ADR including but not limited to mediation, arbitration, Collaborative Family Law, or private judging, will be exempt from the SC for a period of 12 months. If a judgment or dismissal is not filed within 12 months of the filing of the petition, the Court will proceed with a SC.
- D. **Reconciliation.** Parties who file a stipulation indicating they are attempting reconciliation will be exempt from the SC for a period of 12 months. If a judgment or dismissal is not filed within 12 months of the filing of the petition, the court will proceed with a SC.

amended 1/1/2008